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SUBJECT: GOU RESTATES REJECTION OF BERNE CONVENTION ART. 18

Post received a diplomatic note from the MFA on Nov. 19 reiterating the Uzbek government's reservation to Article 18 of the Berne Convention, which protects the works of deceased authors. The following is the unofficially translated operative text of the diplomatic note:

BEGIN TEXT

The clause to the Article 18 of the Berne Convention, adopted by the Oliy Majlis Resolution N 681-II dated August 27, 2004, says: "The Republic of Uzbekistan states that the above mentioned Convention should not be applied to those literary and artistic works that already were in the public domain before the adoption of this Convention by the Republic of Uzbekistan."

Uzbekistan considers it premature to abolish this clause, based on its national interests and the need for the creation of an effective legal and regulatory framework for reliable protection of the rights and interests of copyright holders, as well as the consumers of intellectual property.

END TEXT
NORLAND